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1962/10/22

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DDI notes for
DCI for NSC Briefing
at 3 PM in Cabinet
Room
22 October 1962

Mr. President,

We have now read out the film from all missions flown over
Cuba through Saturday 20 October (this means 17 missions between
14 and 20 October).

There is no evidence of new missile sites in Cuba since
the report given to you at 2:30 p.m. yesterday.

Thus what we have seen to date completed or underway is still
24 launcher positions for Medium Range Ballistic Missiles
(1,020 mile range) located at six base complexes, and 12 launch pads
for Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles (2,000 mile range),
located at three bases -- a total of 36 launchers at nine
separate bases.

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As explained, we expect deployment of 2 missiles per launch position, but to date what we have actually seen are 30 and possibly 32 Medium Range Missiles. (We have not yet seen any Intermediate Range Missiles, although they may be in Cuba under cover or on the Soviet ship POLTAVA, which is due to arrive in Cuba in about five days, and is peculiarly arranged to carry long cylindrical items of cargo.)

The sites are in varying degrees of operational readiness. On the basis of latest evidence we now believe 4 MRBM sites (containing 16 launchers) are in full operational readiness as of today (22 October). We now estimate the remaining 2 MRBM sites (containing 8 additional launchers) will come into full operational readiness on 25 October^{and 29 October}/respectively. These MRBM's are considered mobile; they are fired from a trailer bed type of launcher, and their location as now established

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might suddenly shift to a new location difficult to determine by surveillance.

The 3 IRBM sites (containing 12 launch pads) still seem likely to reach full operational readiness in December. However, emergency operational readiness of some of the IRBMs might be reached somewhat earlier.

Of the 24 primary surface-to-air missile sites in Cuba, we believe 22 are now operational.

The Soviet fleet support vessel, TEREK, is now in the Atlantic on a high-speed run from the Kola Inlet Northern Fleet Base near Murmansk in Russia. It could reach Cuba in four or five days. Its mission is unknown.

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